**DECISION**

The following resolution adopted in the last Joint Conference of Chief Minister of States and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 11th March, 2006 is reiterated:

"(i) A Committee consisting of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Union Minister for Finance and Union Minister for Law & Justice be set-up at national level for ensuring timely implementation of the decisions taken at Chief Justices' Conference and Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices. Wherever deemed appropriate, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India be invited to the meeting of the Committee.

(ii) Monitoring Committees at two levels be set-up in each State for timely implementation of the decisions taken at Chief Justices' Conference and joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices. The first level Committee should consist of Chief Secretary, Registrar General of the High Court and Law Secretary of the State, whereas the second level Committee should consist of Chief Minister, Chief Justice and Law Minister of the State."

**Enhancement in budget for judiciary**

384. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking up the proposal for enhancement of the planned budget for the judiciary; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Central Government has enhanced the outlay for the Plan schemes, being implemented for the Administration of Justice, in the Eleventh Five Year Plan to Rs. 1470 crore from Rs. 700 crore that was provided as the outlay for the Tenth Five Year Plan.

**Pending cases in courts**

385. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that both civil and criminal cases remain pending and are not finalized for decades together;

(b) if so, the number of such cases pending in the High Courts, State-wise and since when;

(c) whether Government is considering to issue instructions to the Courts to finalize such cases within a shortest period to avoid delays; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is expected to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) Government is aware that a number of civil and criminal cases have remained pending with courts for a long period.

(b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The matter of quick and timely disposal of cases pending in the courts is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary and though Government has taken a number of steps to facilitate reduction of arrears of cases pending in the courts, it does not issue instructions to the courts with regard to the period within which to dispose of cases.

**Reservation for women in Legislative bodies and political parties**

386. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of reserving seats for women in Parliament and State Assemblies had dragged on for 11 years since it was first mooted in 1997;

(b) whether UPA Government is agreeable to the proposal mooted by the Election Commission making it mandatory for political parties to earmark 33 per cent seats for women; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to bring forward a law for this purpose in the current Budget Session of Parliament so that it could be implemented for the Lok Sabha polls due in 2009?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The United Progressive Alliance Government in its National Common Minimum Programme issued on 27.5.2004 has stated that it will take the lead to introduce legislation for 1/3rd reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and in the Legislative Assemblies of States. Efforts have accordingly since being made, by the Government in the direction of evolving political consensus on re-introduction of the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament. United Progressive Alliance held a meeting of the constituents of the Alliance and the Left parties on the 22nd August, 2005 to evolve a consensus Subsequently, a meeting with the leaders of the national Democratic Alliance and other political leaders was held on 24th August, 2005. Three proposals relating to Women Reservation Bill were considered *inter alia* includes the proposal of the Election Commission of India which is commonly known as the Gill formula to make it mandatory for the recognized political parties to ensure putting of minimum agreed percentage for women in State Assembly and parliamentary elections so as to allow them to retain the recognition with the Election Commission as political parties. All proposals including Gill formula are under consideration of the Government.

**Recommendations of Delimitation Commission**

387. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delimitation Commission has submitted its recommendations;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Commission; and

(c) whether the same have been given effect to and the steps taken to implement the same?